



**GREATER NEWARK STEM
ECOSYSTEM
3RD ANNUAL CONVENING
JANUARY 15, 2026**

Who We Are

- Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey (CIANJ) - 1927
- Advocates For A Free Market Economy
- 900 Members – Virtually Every Business Sector Represented
- Innovation – Private Sector Jobs
- COMMERCE Magazine – 1968 (Business To Business Magazine)



Sectors Represented

Manufacturing

Healthcare

Utilities

Insurance

Logistics

Financial

Environmental

Legal/Accounting

Retail/Hospitality



A Sampling of Members



A Changing Economy

- Technology Has Changed The Way Business Operates
- Use of Artificial Intelligence Increasing
- Rapid Pace of Business/Staying Relevant
- Global Impact on Business
- The Importance of Relationships

A Changing Workforce

- ▶ Employees Desire to Work Remote (*Dependent on Type of Industry*)
- ▶ Desire For A Work-Life Balance
- ▶ “Aging” Workforce
- ▶ Technology vs Employees (i.e., Doing More With Less?)
- ▶ Retention & Professional Development

Skills Employers Seek

- ▶ “Attitude Over Aptitude”
- ▶ Ability To Solve Problems (i.e., Critical Thinking)
- ▶ Ability To Work In A Team Setting
- ▶ Ability To Build Relationships and Networks
- ▶ Multi-Task Management
- ▶ Ability To Write and Present (Public Speaking)